



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

FTR

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON
INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE
March 8, 2012**

Jewel Mullen MD, MPH, MPA, Commissioner, (860) 509-7101

***House Bill 5387 An Act Concerning Health Insurance Claim Forms and the
Development of a Uniform Treatment Authorization Form for Mental Health
Services***

The Department of Public Health is supportive of the concept of House Bill 5387; however, we do not support the bill as written.

This bill mandates the Department of Public Health (DPH) in consultation with in consultation with the Insurance Commissioner, the Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services, the Attorney General and the Healthcare Advocate, shall develop a uniform treatment authorization form for mental health services. The DPH does not have the expertise to create such form and in turn, may not be able to ensure all the important areas have been covered. The Department feels that this issue should be worked on between providers and insurance companies. The DPH would be glad to assist in the development of a Uniform Treatment Authorization form, but would not be the appropriate entity to take the lead. DPH could also assist with informing and monitoring regulated care providers when such a form is implemented.

Thanks you for your consideration of the Department's views on this bill.

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